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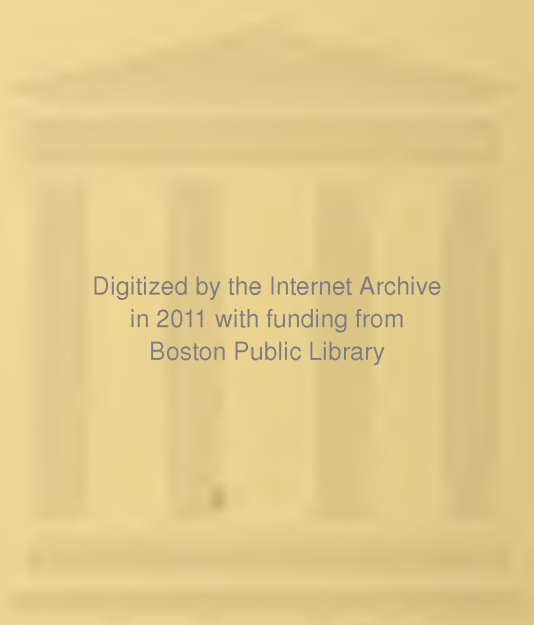
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# Massachusetts Facts

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The  
*Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

Michael S. Dukakis

Governor



Published by the  
**Massachusetts  
Department of  
Commerce and  
Development,  
Division of Tourism**



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# **I**

## **Concise Facts**

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# I

## Concise Facts

**Name** Massachusetts takes its name from the Massachuset tribe of Indians, who lived in the Great Blue Hill region, south of Boston. The Indian term supposedly means “at or about the Great Hill.”

There are, however, a number of interpretations of the exact meaning of the word. The Jesuit missionary, Father Rasles, thought it came from the word Messatossec, “Great-Hills-Mouth:” mess (mass) meaning “great,” atsco (as chu or wad chu) meaning “hill,” and sec (sac or saco) meaning “mouth.” The Reverend John Cotton used another variation: mos and wetuset, meaning “Indian arrowhead,” descriptive of the Indians’ hill home. Another explanation is that the word comes from massa meaning “great,” and wachuset, “mountain-place.”

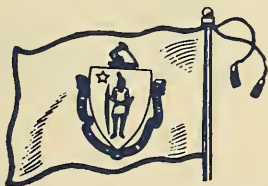
Massachusetts, like Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Kentucky, is called a Commonwealth. The name, which in the eighteenth century was used to mean “republic,” can be traced to the second draft of the state constitution, written by John Adams in 1780. The people had overwhelmingly rejected the first draft of the constitution in 1778, and in that draft the name “State of Massachusetts-Bay” had been used. Perhaps to make it clear that the second document was altogether different from the first, Adams changed this to “Commonwealth of Massachusetts.” Massachusetts thus became the only state in the Union to change its name.

**Nickname** The Bay State or the Old Bay State is the nickname most commonly attached to Massachusetts. She is also occasionally referred to as the Old Colony State, the Puritan State, and the Baked Bean State.



**State Seal** The State Seal, adopted by Governor John Hancock and the Council on December 13, 1780 and legislated by the General Court on June 4, 1885, is circular and bears a representation of the arms of the Commonwealth encircled with the words: "Sigillum Reipublicae Massachusetten-sis" (Seal of the Republic of Massachusetts).

The arms, according to legislative enactment, consist of a shield having a blue field or surface with an Indian thereon, dressed in a shirt and moccasins, holding in his right hand a bow, and in his left hand an arrow, point downward, all of gold; and, in the upper corner of the field, above his right arm, a silver star with five points. The crest is a wreath of blue and gold, on which in gold is a right arm, bent at the elbow, clothed and ruffled, with the hand grasping a broadsword. The motto, "Ense petit placidam sub libertate quietem," is the second of two lines written about 1659 by Algernon Sydney, English soldier and politician, in the *Book of Mottoes* in the King's library at Copenhagen, Denmark. It was adopted in 1775 by the Provincial Congress and means "By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty."



**State Flag** The State Flag is white, bearing on both sides a representation of the coat of arms (except that the five-pointed star is white).



**State Horse or Horse Emblem** The Morgan Horse — descended from a little bay stallion born in West Springfield (1789) who could outrun and outwork any horse brought against him. Named *Figure* by his owner, schoolteacher and singing

master Justin Morgan, in later years he was known by his master's own name, *Justin Morgan*. The gallant little horse died in Vermont (1821) at the age of 32.



**State Bird** The Chickadee (*Penthestes atricapillies*) was adopted as the official State Bird by the Massachusetts Legislature on March 21, 1941. It is known also as the titmouse, tomtit, and the dickybird, and is one of the most familiar of the North American birds. It is from four to five inches in size, its tail accounting for nearly half its length. The general coloring is ashy-grey, the back having a brownish tinge; the crown, nape, chin, and throat are black, and the cheeks white. It nests in a stump, tree, or fence post close to the ground, and broods twice a year. It is a cheerful bird and has a pleasing call — “Chick-adee-dee-dee.”



**State Fish or Fish Emblem** Cod (*Gadus morrhua*). A soft-finned fish, usually 10-20 lbs. General coloring is olive gray with lateral lines paler than rest of body tint. Pilgrims used them as common food and fertilizer.



**State Insect or Insect Emblem** Ladybug — also lady beetle, ladybird, ladyfly, etc. Most common in the State is the Two-Spotted Lady Beetle (*Adalia bipunctata*) — head black with pale



yellowish margins; elytra reddish, with 2 black spots. Idea originated with a second grade class in Town of Franklin.

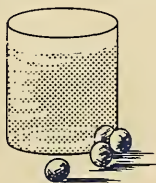


**State Flower** The Mayflower (*Epigaea repens*), also commonly known as the ground laurel or trailing arbutus, has ovate hairy leaves and fragrant, pink or white, spring-blooming flowers with five petals. It grows in woods, preferring sandy or rocky soil, under or near evergreens. It was adopted as the official flower of the Commonwealth by the General Court on May 1, 1918.



**State Tree** American Elm (*Ulmus Americana*) was adopted as the official State Tree, March 21, 1941. It is a large tree, with gray flaky bark. When growing in the forest it often attains a height of 120 feet, but in the open it is wide-spreading and of lesser height. The leaves are oval, dark green, turning to a clear yellow in the autumn.

**State Song** The official song of the Commonwealth, "All Hail To Massachusetts" words and music by Arthur J. Marsh, was designated by an Act of the Legislature in September, 1966.



**State Beverage** Cranberry juice was named the beverage of the Commonwealth on May 4, 1970. This was a tribute to the great Massachusetts cranberry industry.

**Population and Area** Massachusetts, according to the 1975 State Census, has a population of 5,789,478, a gross area of 8,093 square miles and a net land area of 7,838, ranks 10th in population and 45th in area among the states of the nation. It is divided into 14 counties, varying in size and population from Nantucket (area 50.34 sq. mi., pop. 5,559) to Worcester (area 1,575.95 sq. mi., pop. 640,058) and Middlesex (area 844.21 sq. mi., pop. 1,397,524).

The counties are made up of 39 cities and 312 towns, of which Boston, the capital is the largest with a population of 637,986, and Mt. Washington, with a population of 78, the smallest. More than half of the State's total population lives in the Greater Boston area. Other Massachusetts cities over or approximating 100,000 population are:

Worcester .....	172,342
Springfield .....	168,785
Cambridge .....	102,095
New Bedford .....	100,345
Fall River .....	100,339
Brockton .....	95,688
Quincy .....	91,487
Lowell .....	91,177
Newton .....	89,183

A third of the population is of foreign stock, of which 24.7% were Canadian, 15.6% Italian, 11.6% Eire, 8.1% United Kingdom and 6.2% Polish.

**Boundaries** Massachusetts lies between the parallels of 41° 10' and 42° 53' north latitude and between 69° 57' and 73° 30' west longitude. It has a shore line of approximately 1,980 miles on the Atlantic Ocean, Massachusetts Bay, and Buzzards Bay. The State is 190 miles, east-west, and 110 miles, north-south, at its widest parts. The northern, or New Hampshire-Vermont border, runs almost due east and west for 135 miles; the western, or New York boundary, is 49 miles long. On the south, the State borders Connecticut for 91 miles and Rhode Island for 65 miles.

**Government** The Massachusetts Constitution was ratified in 1780 while the Revolutionary War was still in progress, nine years before the United

States Constitution was adopted. It is the oldest written Constitution now in use. It specified three branches of Government: Executive, Legislative and Judicial, the first two of which are housed in the State House.

**Executive Branch** The Governor and Lieutenant Governor are elected as a team for four years. The Governor is often referred to as the Chief Executive for good reason. He appoints all members of the State and Local Judiciary. He also appoints the heads of each Executive Department, whose terms are coterminous with his. Ten Executive Offices have been established, each headed by a Secretary, much like the President's cabinet.

The Governor is responsible for submitting the state budget to the Legislature. He may recommend new policies for the State, new legislation, and changes in the administration of departments that conduct the government from day to day. He is head of the state militia, has the power to order out the National Guard to meet domestic emergencies, and is the State's chief spokesman with the Federal Government.

The Lieutenant Governor serves as Acting Governor in the absence, death, or removal of the Governor. He is by law a voting member of the Executive Council, except when presiding over it in the absence of the Governor.

**Executive Council** The Executive Council has eight members who are elected every two years. Often called the Governor's Council, only one other state, New Hampshire, has such an elected body. The Council has power to approve judicial appointments and pardons, to approve the Governor's appointments to vacant Constitutional offices when the General Court is not in session, to approve his call for special sessions of the General Court or his prorogation (ending of a session) of that body, and to authorize expenditures from the Treasury.

**Other Constitutional Officers** The four other Constitutional Officers of the State are elected for four-year terms. They are listed in order of their succession to the Office of Governor.

The Secretary of the Commonwealth is the custodian of the records of the Commonwealth and Keeper of the Great Seal, which must be affixed to certain official documents. He has the responsibility for printing the laws and distributing them to agencies and specified individuals affected by the legislation. In his office is the Division of Vital Statistics which maintains all birth, marriage, divorce and death records. His office issues the certificates of incorporation and commissions to notaries public and other officers. The Archives Museum and the State House tours are under his supervision. The Secretary administers state elections, recording nomination papers and providing voting information to all citizens.

The Attorney General is the Commonwealth's lawyer. In any action brought against the state or its officials, his office is the defender. He investigates and prosecutes offenders against state law. He consults with the nine District Attorneys (elected for 4 years and paid by state funds) and other law enforcement officers to ensure that the laws are being carried out. Through such divisions as that of Consumer Protection, his office provides a voice for the average citizen. The Attorney General also advises both the Executive and Legislative branches on legal matters and approves all state contracts.

The Treasurer and Receiver-General receives state monies collected by other agencies (fees and taxes). He maintains, invests and disburses state funds as authorized and reports regularly on funds under his control.

The Auditor of the Commonwealth is in charge of post-auditing the accounts of the various state departments, agencies, authorities and institutions.

All of the Constitutional Officers serve on and work with state boards and commissions.

**Legislative Branch** The General Court, elected every two years, is made up of a Senate of forty members and a House of Representatives of two hundred and forty. Each branch elects its own leader from the membership. The Senate elects its President, the House its Speaker. These two

officers exercise power through their appointments of majority party floor leaders and whips (the minority party elects its leaders in a party caucus), their selection of chairmen and all members of the joint committees, and in their rulings as presiding officers. Joint committees of the General Court are made up of six senators and fifteen representatives, with a Senate and House Chairman for each committee. These committees must hold hearings on all bills filed. The report usually determines whether or not a bill will pass. Each chamber has a separate Rules and a Ways and Means Committee and these are among the most important committee assignments.

**Making a Law** Surrounded by laws as we are, how do we enact a law? Any citizen of Massachusetts may file a bill through a state legislator. The bill is assigned to a committee, given a public hearing, and reported by the committee to the appropriate chamber with a recommendation to pass or defeat. An adverse committee report may be accepted by majority vote of the House or Senate and the matter is thus disposed of. Sometimes the House or Senate substitutes a bill for the adverse committee report. Bills coming from committee with a favorable report or substituted bills must take three readings in each branch, but are subject to debate only on the second or third readings.

When both chambers have passed the bill in exactly the same form, it is then printed for final passage and returns for the vote of enactment. If the bill is changed by amendments in one house, it must return to the originating house for concurrence. It may be killed by either house, or if the two houses cannot agree on its form it may go to a conference committee which works out a compromise.

Once a bill is enacted by both houses the Governor has ten days in which to act upon it. He may:

- (a) Sign it and it becomes law. (Usually to become effective in ninety days.)
- (b) Return it for reconsideration with an Executive Amendment.



- (c) Veto it, requiring a two-thirds vote of both houses to pass it over his veto.
- (d) Refuse to sign it. After ten days it becomes law unless the Legislature prorogues during that time. If this happens, the bill dies. This is called a "pocket veto."

**Judicial Branch** Judicial appointments are held to the age of seventy. The Supreme Judicial Court, consisting of a Chief Justice and six associate justices, is the highest court in the Commonwealth; it is empowered to advise the Governor and the Legislature on questions of law. The Superior Court, consisting of a Chief Justice and forty-six associate justices, is the highest trial court. It hears law, equity, civil and criminal cases. Law cases may be appealed to the Supreme Judicial Court, but decisions of fact made by the Superior Court are final. There is also a system of Appeals, District, Housing, Juvenile, Land and Probate Courts.

**Counties** — The fourteen counties are Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden, Worcester, Middlesex, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Bristol, Plymouth, Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket. Each is served by three County Commissioners with the exception of Nantucket and Suffolk. The five town selectmen of Nantucket serve as commissioners. Suffolk's commissioners are the Mayor and City Councillors of Boston, Board of Alderman of Chelsea, City Council of Revere and the Board of Selectmen of Winthrop. No area of the Commonwealth is governed by a county.

**Municipalities** — The cities of Massachusetts are governed by Mayors and City Councils, but towns are governed by groups of officials called Selectmen. A Board of Selectmen is usually elected for a one- or two-year term, and town meetings, a tradition from Colonial times, are still held regularly.

**State Capitol** — The State House — one of the 12 seats of state government, so-called. For a description of the outstanding features of this edifice, see Section III, The New State House.

**Voting Requirements** The Massachusetts voter must be eighteen years old, a United States citizen and a resident of a city or town when registering.

### Legal Holidays

January 1	New Year's Day
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
3rd Monday, Feb.	Washington's Birthday
*March 17	Evacuation Day
3rd Monday, April	Patriots' Day
Last Monday, May	Memorial Day
*June 17	Bunker Hill Day
July 4	Independence Day
1st Monday, Sept.	Labor Day
2nd Monday, Oct.	Columbus Day
November 11	Veterans' Day
4th Thursday, Nov.	Thanksgiving Day
December 25	Christmas Day

\*Celebrated in Suffolk County only.

(Boston, Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop)

Note: Whenever a legal holiday falls on a Sunday it is observed on the following Monday.

**Time** The Commonwealth is on United States eastern standard time, and by law employs the Daylight Saving Plan, advancing the clock one hour at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in April, and retarding it one hour at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in October.

**Climate** The prevailing wind is from the west, with an average velocity of 10 to 13 miles per hour. Average monthly temperatures in Boston range from 28.2 degrees in January to 72.0 degrees in July. The lowest temperature recorded by the U.S. Weather Bureau in Boston since its establishment, October 1870, was -18 degrees in February 1934; the highest, 104 degrees in July 1911. The last killing frost generally occurs before May 10, and the earliest fall frost usually comes in late September or early October. The normal annual precipitation is 44.23 inches.

**Topography** Massachusetts topography varies greatly; from the rocky shores, sandy beaches and salt marshes of the coast; through rolling hills, and fertile valley to lofty wooded hills in the western part of the state.

**Minerals** Although valuable mineral resources are not usually credited to Massachusetts, the mining of non-metallic minerals is a considerable industry within the State. Clay, lime, marble, sand and gravel, silica, quartz, granite, limestone, sandstone, slate and traprock are all mined to a varying extent. From time to time small deposits of alum, asbestos, barite, feldspar, graphite, mica, peat, and semi-precious stones, such as the beryl, aquamarine and tourmaline have been worked.

There is no metal mining in Massachusetts, but ores of copper, gold, iron, lead, silver, zinc and other metallic minerals have at times been discovered.

Dolomitic marbles are found in Ashley Falls, West Stockbridge, and Lee, all in Berkshire County. Verd antique is quarried near Westfield, in Hampden County. The Quincy quarries produce monumental granite, while building granites come chiefly from Milford, West Chelmsford, Becket, and Fall River. In South Framingham is found diatomite, a hydrous or opaline form of silica. Mineral production within the State was valued at \$49,843,000 in 1969. The valuation was based on returns from clay, lime, sand and stone (mostly granite and basalt).

**Soil** Massachusetts soils vary widely in color and in character. Broadly speaking, the uplands contain an abundance of mineral matter, while more or less organic matter is present in the lowlands.

The western region is hilly and is separated by the Connecticut River Valley from a central upland plateau region which slopes to the Atlantic coast. Except on Cape Cod where there are long stretches of sandy, treeless flats, almost all of the land was originally covered with dense forests. Even after the forests were cleared or thinned, however, the soil did not yield readily to cultivation by the early farmers, and their skill and patience were taxed heavily before it became productive. The most arable soil is found in the broad Connecticut Valley in the west-central part of the State. Rich alluvial deposits are found in the fertile river valleys.

On the whole, Massachusetts soils yield profitably when production is carried on under modern



procedures. Even the sandy soils on the Cape have been made extremely fruitful when farmed by skillful agriculturists. In fact, Cape Cod and the South Shore produce the biggest cranberry crop in the world.

**Major Farm Products**, on the basis of income, are milk, nursery and greenhouse, eggs and poultry, vegetables, cattle, hogs, and sheep, cranberries, and fruit. Total cash receipts from farm marketings in 1974 were \$200,700,000, of which milk, poultry and livestock accounted for \$104.4 million and crops \$96.3 million.

**Manufacturing** A listing of our six leading manufactured products, in order of largest amounts of value added by manufacture, shows nonelectrical machinery first, followed by electrical machinery, instruments, fabricated metal products, printing and publishing and food. Of the 50 states the Commonwealth ranks 11th in value added by manufacture.

**Rivers** There are 4,230 miles of rivers within the Commonwealth. The largest is the Connecticut, which flows from north to south. Its tributaries are the Deerfield, Westfield, Chicopee, and Miller's rivers. In the far western part of the state the Housatonic flows south and the Hoosic flows north between the Hoosac and Taconic mountain ranges.

The Merrimac, in the northeast, rises in New Hampshire and empties into the Atlantic Ocean. It is navigable for shipping up to a distance of about 15 miles from its mouth. The Nashua and Concord Rivers are tributaries of the Merrimac. The Blackstone flows south from the center of Massachusetts. The Mystic and Charles Rivers flow into Boston Harbor, and the Taunton River enters Mt. Hope Bay at Fall River.

**Lakes** Massachusetts has more than 1,100 lakes and ponds. The largest of these, Quabbin Reservoir, 24,704 acres, and Wachusett Reservoir, 4,160 acres, are man made. These two reservoirs will provide Metropolitan Boston with an ample supply of water for many years to come.

Among those of natural origin, the largest are Assawompsett Pond, 2,656 acres, in Lakeville and Middleborough, drained by the Taunton River; North Watuppa Pond, 1,805 acres, and South Watuppa Pond, 1,551 acres, in Fall River and Westport, drained by the Quequechan River; Long Pond, 1,361 acres, in Lakeville and Freetown, drained by the Taunton River; Lake Chargoggagogmanchaugagogchaubunagungamaug, (usually called Lake Webster) 1,188 acres, in Webster, drained by the French River; Herring Pond, 1,157 acres, in Edgartown, on the Island of Martha's Vineyard; Great Quittacas Pond, 1,128 acres, in Lakeville, Rochester, and Middleborough, drained by the Taunton River; Lake Quinsigamond, 1,051 acres, in Worcester, Shrewsbury and Grafton; Monponsett Pond, 756 acres, in Halifax and Hanson, drained by the Taunton River.

**Islands** Lying off Cape Cod are Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, and the Elizabeth Island group.

Martha's Vineyard, triangular in shape, is about 19 miles long and less than 10 in width. It contains the towns of Edgartown, Chilmark, Tisbury, West Tisbury, Gay Head and Oak Bluffs.

Nantucket, also triangular, about 15 miles long and from 3 to 4 miles wide, was once famed for its whaling industry. Both Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket are now popular summer resorts.

The Elizabeth Islands are a group of about twenty-two small islands lying between Vineyard Sound and Buzzards Bay. On one of these, Cuttyhunk, Bartholomew Gosnold established a colony in 1602, abandoning it the same year.

The Boston Harbor island group includes The Four Brewsters, Bumpkin, Calf, Deer, Gallop's, George's, Grape, The Graves, Green, Hangman, Long, Lovell's, Nixes Mate, Peddock's, Raccoon, Rainsford, Sheep, Slate, Spectacle and Thompson. Some islands have been made part of the mainland by the great amount of landfill that has gone on over the years. Governor's Island, where the first apple and pear trees in America were planted, is now a part of Boston's Logan

International Airport. Most of the islands have been used for farming, resort/recreation areas, public facilities or fortifications.

**Mountains** Mount Greylock, altitude 3,491 feet, in Berkshire County, is the highest mountain in Massachusetts. Other important mountains are Mount Williams, 2,951 feet, in North Adams; East Mountain, 2,660 feet, in Hancock; Mount Everett, 2,602 feet, in Mt. Washington; Spruce Hill, 2,588 feet, in Adams; Mount Frissel, 2,453 feet, in Mt. Washington; Potter Mountain, 2,391 feet, in Lanesboro; French Hill, 2,214 feet in Peru; Mount Wachusett, 2,006 feet, in Princeton.

**Lighthouses and Lightships** Over 240 lights, on vessels, lighthouses, and buoys, flash their signals to mariners approaching the rugged Massachusetts coast. There are more than 50 lighthouses and lightships whose light beams are visible for a distance of 10 miles or more.

Boston Light, located on Little Brewster Island at the entrance to Boston Harbor, was the first lighthouse in America. The tower of rubble stone was erected by Massachusetts in 1716, and blown up by the British in 1776.

It was rebuilt in 1783, and in 1859 its height was increased from 75 to 89 feet. The present tower is on the original site and the rubble stone of the original forms the lower portion; the remainder is granite. The earliest fog signal, a cannon, was placed at Boston Light in 1719. The first of the six lightships, Cross Rip Lightship, was established in 1828. All the lightships send out a radio beam.

## II

### Historical Sketch

Adventurous explorers roved about the coast of Massachusetts centuries before the *Mayflower* made its famous voyage. There is a legend that Leif Ericson and his Norsemen touched here in the year 1000, and probably fishermen from France and Spain bound for the teeming waters off the Grand Banks, stopped now and again to cast their nets for cod. In 1497 and 1498 John Cabot carried through the explorations upon which England based her original claim to North America. Other occasional landings were made by voyagers seeking a new route to the fabled treasures of the exotic East, and occasionally abortive plans for colonization took vague shape. In 1602 Bartholomew Gosnold explored the Bay and christened Cape Cod for the fish that swarmed about it. Twelve years later John Smith wrote of his New England journeyings with a fervor that stirred the blood of discontented English farmers, describing "Many iles all planted with corne; groves, mulberries, salvage gardens and good harbors." A second enthusiast, William Wood, in 1634 contributed his *New England Prospect* to the growing travel literature of the New World. There was talk in Europe of the wealth that lay here and the trade that might be established, but the first important movement toward settlement originated not in material but in religious aspirations.

The Pilgrims, seeking religious freedom, set sail for North America in 1620 and established their colony in Plymouth. There they set up a democratic government in accordance with the terms of the famous "Mayflower Compact," an agreement binding all to conform to the will of the majority. In spite of great hardships, the Pilgrim settlement prospered, and in 1621 the first Thanksgiving day was observed. Gradually small fishing and trading stations were established, notably at Wessagusset (Weymouth), Quincy, and Cape Ann.

More important, however, was the arrival of the

Puritans, who were also determined to find a place where their religious views and practices would be free from persecution. In 1628 a shipload of emigrants led by John Endicott left England for Salem, there to join Roger Conant's band of refugees from the abandoned fishing station on Cape Ann. The following year a royal charter was granted to the Massachusetts Bay Company, to promote the settlement of the territory "from sea to sea" that had been granted to the Puritans, and to govern its colonies. The charter given to the Company was the foundation of the government of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. It provided for a General Court which was a single body, of which the Court of Assistants was an integral part. Later the Court of Assistants separated from the General Court and became America's first elected Upper House.

**Colonizing** When John Winthrop and a large group of Puritans arrived at Salem in 1630, bearing with them the prized charter, a self-contained English colony, governed by its own members, was assured. Winthrop moved from Salem to Charlestown and then to Boston, other settlements were founded, and by 1640 the immigrants in Massachusetts numbered 16,000, all seeking greater economic opportunity and a free environment for their dissentient religious views.

The colonizing movement spread rapidly along the coast and then westward; those who were restless and rebellious against the rigid rule of the ministers went out into what are now other New England States, founding towns based upon the Massachusetts pattern. Small-scale farming was the fundamental way of earning a living, and compact settlements with outlying fields grew up around the central green, which is a characteristic of old New England towns. The long winters gave leisure for handcraft, and "Yankee ingenuity" first showed itself in the variety of products the farmers turned out to supply their own and their neighbor's needs. Most enduring feature of the community pattern was the town meeting, in which every taxpayer had equal voice. In evolving that most democratic of governmental proce-



dures, Massachusetts contributed greatly to the political development of the nation.

**Bay Colony** The Massachusetts Bay Colony worked out its problems without interference from across the sea until 1660, when the Stuarts were restored to the throne. Thereafter a policy of stricter control was instituted. Massachusetts resisted stoutly all attempts at regulation from abroad, and consequently lost its charter in 1684, becoming a part of the Dominion of New England under the administration of Sir Edmund Andros. For four years Massachusetts continued to oppose the will of the Crown. When James II fled in 1688 the Puritans failed in their attempt to revive the Massachusetts Bay Company, and Massachusetts, in 1691, became a Royal Province under a Governor appointed by the Crown. Two legislative houses were permitted, however, and the requirement that every voter must be a church member was abolished.

The new restrictions incidental to the status of a Royal Province, applied in Massachusetts and elsewhere, provoked the series of controversies that culminated in the Revolutionary War. During the end of the seventeenth century and beginning of the eighteenth century, Massachusetts grew in population and in maritime trade. These were the years of the so-called Second Hundred Years' War between England and France. In these wars, 1688-1760, Massachusetts played an important part. Its crowning feat was the capture in 1745 of the fortress of Louisburg on the Cape Breton Island, a fortress so strong it was known as the Gibraltar of America. At the same time, Massachusetts' maritime trade, especially with Caribbean ports, rose to the point that Boston was known as "The Mart (or market town) of the West Indies."

**Repressive Measures** Lax enforcement of the restrictive laws, due to the fact that England was engrossed through much of the eighteenth century by a series of wars with France, gave Massachusetts a breathing spell. The conduct of the colonies, however, in carrying on trade with the

enemy during these struggles of the mother country, and their failure to pay a fixed share of the war's expenses finally brought about a stricter colonial policy. The Sugar Act (1764) almost abolished the foreign trade upon which Massachusetts depended for its gold; the Stamp Act (1765) taxed out of the colony most of the funds remaining to her. Rioting and boycotts brought about the repeal of the Stamp Act and the modification of the Sugar Act in 1766, but other repressive measures followed and the people of Massachusetts were active in their defiance of each new imposition.

The "Boston Massacre" of March 5, 1770, when British soldiers of the garrison stationed in that recalcitrant town fired upon a taunting crowd of citizens, was an ominous portent of the Revolution to come. When the Tea Act was passed in 1773 it gave overwhelming subsidies, by means of a tax rebate, to the East India Company. Samuel Adams organized and directed a group of Bostonians, disguised as Indians, and dumped the cargoes of three East India Company ships into Boston Harbor. England retaliated by closing the Port of Boston and by other coercive Acts, and the colonial patriots called a Continental Congress that ordered a general boycott of English goods. On April 19, 1775, the "embattled farmers," warned by the historic rides of Paul Revere and William Dawes, engaged the British regulars at Lexington and Concord, firing "the shot heard round the world." There followed the siege of Boston, the "glorious defeat" at the Battle of Bunker Hill, and on March 17, 1776, the British evacuation. Massachusetts, where the first blood of the Revolution was shed, had won the first important victory. Thereafter, the State had no enemy troops within its borders.

**Post War Problems** With independence came the post-war problems of government, social, and economic progress. After several years of friction under an unsatisfactory Executive Council, which did not properly represent the people, a Constitutional Convention drew up a Constitution drafted in the main by John Adams, and the people ratified it on June 15, 1780. Massachusetts originated the

Constitutional Convention and insisted on separate popular ratification of every article in the original Constitution and of every subsequent amendment. The Constitution of Massachusetts is the oldest written Constitution in the world still in effect.

After a period of economic depression and political discontent, the Federal Constitution was adopted, and under the presidency of Washington, Massachusetts prospered and expanded her foreign commerce both by entering upon the renowned and immensely profitable China trade and by acquiring, after 1793, much of the carrying trade formerly shared between England and France, then at war.

The Commonwealth remained affluent and satisfied with the state of the nation throughout Washington's administration and through Jefferson's first term. After his re-election, however, the President imposed the Embargo Act as retaliation for the interference of France and England with American shipping. Maritime Massachusetts suffered more than any other State. Worse was to come, for the War of 1812 put a complete stop to her ocean trade, and the Commonwealth opposed "Mr. Madison's War" until its conclusion in 1815.

**A New Era** Then began a new era, the gradual development of the industrial interests that were eventually to absorb the capital and the enterprise heretofore devoted almost entirely to commerce. During the Embargo and the War of 1812 the American States had been forced to manufacture essential goods, which could not then be brought across the sea from England. In 1816 a protective tariff was enacted to shield the infant industries from foreign competition. Gradually manufacturing became more and more concentrated in New England and particularly in Massachusetts. Waterpower was plentiful, the labor of farmers trained in handcraft was available, and capital was looking for new investments. In 1814 Francis Cabot Lowell set up his perfected power loom in Waltham, and the textile industry, which was to transform Lawrence, Lowell, Fall River, New



Bedford, and other cities into great manufacturing centers, was off to a flying start.

The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 accelerated the decline of agriculture. Products from the fertile West now moved cheaply and rapidly to New England, and competition was difficult. Massachusetts farmers went West or left their farms for the factories.

Dismayed by the westward movement of its people, the Commonwealth attempted to stay the trend by reforming governmental and religious affairs. The Constitutional Convention of 1820 liberalized the Constitution in a number of ways, giving the people a greater voice in their government, and in 1833 another Constitutional Amendment completely separated Church and State. The course of government had moved nearer to the goal of a democratic people.

**Intellectual Activity** The early decades of the nineteenth century were marked by vigorous intellectual activity. Emerson, Thoreau, and their followers were preaching the Transcendentalist theory of the innate nobility of man and the doctrine of individual expression. Social strivings were exemplified in the campaign of Horace Mann for universal education and in the crusade of Dorothea L. Dix on behalf of the mentally disturbed. Colonies of idealists gathered here and there, notably at Brook Farm, in West Roxbury, seeking to demonstrate that the sharing of labor and the fruits of labor was the ideal basis for community living. Minds teemed with ideas for social progress.

Out of this lively intellectual ferment came the abolitionist fervor. In 1831, William Lloyd Garrison, a most ardent and uncompromising foe of slavery, founded his weekly, *The Liberator*. The next year the New England Anti-Slavery Society was formed in Boston. Prominent men of this society helped slaves to escape to Canada by means of the "Underground Railway," and a reforming spirit dominated the Commonwealth throughout the years until the conclusion of the Civil War. To that War, Massachusetts gave men and money without stint.

The post-war years were devoted primarily to the expansion of industry. The Port of Boston was now depending mainly upon the increasing volume of imported raw materials that its factories required. The Commonwealth continued to net large sums from its fisheries, concentrated mainly in Boston and Gloucester after the decline of New Bedford whaling, but its living henceforth came largely from machines.

**Prosperous Industry** At the close of the century Massachusetts factories produced more than one-third of the nation's woolen goods, and Fall River, Lawrence, Lowell, and New Bedford were preeminent in cotton textiles. The boot and shoe industry and the associated industry of leather tanning spread by leaps and bounds, until by 1900 the factories of Lynn, Brockton, Haverhill, Marlborough, Worcester, and other Massachusetts cities were making about half the boots and shoes produced in the entire country.

Much of the basic pattern of the Bay State's continuing success was woven during this period. Machinery of all kinds became increasingly important and large plants were established for its manufacture. These plants employed thousands of workers, a large percentage of whom were highly skilled. Industrial diversification plus a large reservoir of expert workers have played major roles in maintaining the status of Massachusetts as an important segment of the country's economy. Massachusetts now depends less upon any single industry than all but three of the States.

The floods of immigrants that had rolled in since the early nineteenth century, drawn here by the industrial opportunities, transformed the once predominantly English population into a mixture of national groups. In 1930 the inhabitants of Massachusetts numbered 4,249,614, of whom 65.04 percent were either foreign-born or of foreign or mixed parentage. Into the Puritan Commonwealth, enriching it with their varied Old World cultures, came new Americans from most countries of the world. Finns, Letts, Lithuanians, and Turks joined the Irish and Scotch who arrived in numbers before the Civil War; French, Italians, Poles, Portuguese, Germans, and a score of other

foreign groups cast their fortunes along with the descendants of those first immigrants, the Pilgrims and Puritans.

**Progressive Laws** New ways of living, new types of citizens, brought fresh problems for the Commonwealth to solve. The General Court enacted laws, more progressive for their day than any in the nation, to prevent the exploitation of women and minors, and to guard the health of all workers.

The public school system soon became established in every village and city; and Massachusetts also attained a high degree of fame for its many universities and colleges. Public libraries, which by the turn of the century had been established in every Massachusetts community, and many museums, some of national repute, provided important educational and cultural advantages.

Industry, which had expanded to meet the demands of World War I, continued to spiral until 1929 when the nationwide depression began. The trend toward decentralization and the movement of industry nearer to the sources of raw materials slowed recovery in the years that followed.

By 1939, however, when World War II began in Europe, the economy had returned to normal. Massachusetts was again profiting by two of her major assets, skilled labor and proximity to major markets. World War II expanded the economy to levels never before attained.

Employment after World War II remained high. Workers were busy in ever-widening fields, and new industries were attracted by the unsurpassed research facilities in Massachusetts.

The Korean War kept industry stimulated, and activity continued after the war was over, maintaining a high level of employment.

During the early years of the war in Vietnam, the economic future of the Commonwealth appeared to lie in the military and aero-space uses of atomic power. Massachusetts acquired several nuclear reactors. By the end of the 1960's, however, de-escalation of the war and a cutback in funds for the space program made it evident that new industrial markets would have to be found.

**Resources** Fortunately, Massachusetts is well equipped to meet the new challenges of the '70's. Its more than eighty colleges and universities, its huge research and development industry, and its world renowned medical centers are geared to solving the problems of people and their environment. So are the expanding chemical and electronics industries. Logan International Airport has already made Boston one of America's major transport centers, and the science of Oceanography promises to give the Bay State new leadership in mastering the resources of the sea.

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### III

## The New State House

After a long hard struggle for independence, Massachusetts became a state. A new building was urgently needed to make this new government work. It had to be larger, and a proud people wanted it to be handsomer than any of those used in Colonial days.

So the young Boston architect, Charles Bulfinch, spent many months studying pictures of magnificent Greek and Roman temples. Then he adapted their forms for this new State House, designed rows of columns, and, most daring of all, planned a large dome. At the very top he placed a gilt pine cone as a symbol of the forests that made it possible for the early settlers to survive. The rest of the world badly needed wood for buckets, barrels, shingles, timbers and masts for ships. The dome was built of wood and covered with copper, made by Paul Revere, to protect it from the weather. It was gilded in 1861, but during World War II it was painted gray to disguise it as a landmark. Since 1948 it has twice been covered with 23 karat gold.

The site of the State House, formerly the cow pasture of John Hancock, was set apart from the city on the brow of its highest hill. Beacon Hill at that time extended farther upward and there was a tall column with a spread eagle at its top. The Common's green fields sloped down to the edge of the waters of the Back Bay. The building was set in from the street and a tree-lined driveway curved up to its front porch.

It took three years for the best craftsmen in Boston to lay the bricks, build the columns and dome and decorate the interior. It was finally finished in 1798.

The visitor today sees this State House, from the steep granite steps, much as it looked then except for the two marble wings on either side. These were added in the twentieth century. The hill behind was removed about a hundred years ago and a big north annex, built of yellow brick, fashionable at that time, was added.



**Grounds** There are interesting statues on the grounds outside the State House. At the far left (west) is a statue of Anne Hutchinson with one of her nine children. She was banished from the Colony in the early seventeenth century because she dared to question Puritan theology. A martyr to her Quaker faith was Mary Dyer, whose statue is at the far right (east) side of the building. The two men whose statues stand on the entrance steps are Daniel Webster, on the left, a spellbinding orator in the U.S. Senate; and Horace Mann, on the right, a compassionate educator who fought for public education for all children. The soldier on horseback near the east wing is Civil War General Thomas Hooker.

Looking away from the State House, towards the Common, there is a bas relief monument honoring the Massachusetts 54th Regiment. This first black volunteer unit was led by Robert Gould Shaw who died in battle at Fort Wagner, South Carolina. This monument was ordered for the State House, but the artist-sculptor Augustus St. Gaudens made it so large that it had to be placed outside.

**Doric Hall** The name of Doric Hall comes from the double row of columns with Doric capitals that Bulfinch employed. A banquet was held here for President Madison when he visited Boston in 1817, and a reception was given for General Lafayette during his American tour in 1824. It is still used for social gatherings and official ceremonies.

The big double doors at its front entrance are open on only two occasions: when a Governor leaves the State House for the last time after his term of office has expired and when a President of the United States comes to visit.

The room has been carefully preserved and appears much as it did when it was built, except for the marble floor that has replaced the first wooden one. A bronze statue of John Hancock, first Governor of the State of Massachusetts, is on the west wall, surrounded by portraits of Provincial Royal Governors. On the opposite east wall hangs one of the three known full-length paintings

of President Lincoln. He was said to be sensitive about his great height and preferred to sit for painters who showed only his head. Two small portraits of the first Colonial Governors, John Endicott and John Winthrop, hang beside the large one. The four cannon were captured during the War of the Revolution and the War of 1812.

**Senate Staircase Hall** A narrow corridor at the rear of Doric Hall marks the beginning of the 19th century north annex addition, and leads into the larger Senate Staircase Hall. Overhead is a colored glass window with the names of various republics.

There are actually two marble staircases in the Senate Staircase Hall. The one on the east side leads to the Senate and the one on the other side goes to the Governor's office. There are many tablets and souvenirs of the past. The most conspicuous is a large statue of a young lady tending a fallen soldier, a memorial to the nurses who took part in the Civil War.

High on the north wall are three splendid paintings representing dramatic events in Massachusetts history. The one in the center shows James Otis, a young Boston lawyer, arguing against the Writs of Assistance in 1763. The Writs were issued by the Governor to enable his officers to enter and search any home or warehouse. On the right, Bostonians are dumping tea in the harbor, protesting the tax that was imposed by a faraway parliament in England. On the left, Paul Revere is making his famous ride to warn that the British soldiers in Boston are planning to seize the gunpowder stored in Concord.

**Hall of Flags** This circular room is surrounded by tall columns of Sienna marble, and its floor is patterned with many other kinds and colors of marble. It was built as a memorial to those who fought and died in the Civil War. The flags now include those of the Spanish-American War and World Wars I and II. In a case on the west wall is one that flew on the cruiser *Boston* in Vietnam.

High on the east wall is a painting of the Civil War flags being returned to the State House. The other paintings represent the Pilgrims on the

Mayflower, north wall; the Battle at Concord Bridge in 1775, west wall; and John Eliot, a Puritan minister, teaching the Indians, south wall. Overhead is a large skylight of colored glass, showing the seals of the original thirteen states.

**State Seals** A large stairway behind the Hall of Flags leads to the third floor. On the landing is a colored window showing the various seals that have been used by the governments of Massachusetts. At the top is the one with the figure of an Indian used by the first colony. The central seal is the one used today, adopted by the Constitution of 1780. The figure of a man holding the Magna Charta was used during the Revolution. Surrounding these three seals are the ones used by Provincial governors from 1685 to 1775.

The motto on the seal used today is Latin and it means, "By the sword we seek peace, but peace only under liberty."

**Fingold State Library** At the rear of the third floor is the Fingold State Library. It contains over a million volumes dealing with state and local history, public documents, directories, government laws. The parchment Commission given to Governor Andros by King James II in 1686 is on permanent display here.

**House of Representatives** The House of Representatives originally used what is now the Senate Chamber, but during the nineteenth century the population of Massachusetts increased so much that more representatives were elected than the old House could seat. A new addition built in 1895 contains the present House Chamber. Directly opposite the Speaker's chair, hanging in the gallery, can be seen the sacred cod, carved out of a solid piece of wood, and symbolizing the fishing industry.

High on the wall behind the Speaker are paintings done by Albert Herter, picturing the growth of freedom in Massachusetts. The one on the left shows the Puritans, led by Governor Winthrop, landing in Massachusetts in 1630. The one on the far right shows an unpopular Royal Governor, Edmund Andros, being asked to leave.



The second in on the left shows one of the judges at the Salem Witchcraft trials, repenting for having sentenced accused witches to death. Second in on the right depicts John Adams, Samuel Adams and James Bowdoin writing the Massachusetts Constitution. In the middle John Hancock is shown, asking that the Bill of Rights be included in the Federal Constitution.

**Senate Chamber** The remaining rooms to be visited are in the old, original part of the State House. When the Senate Chamber was used by the Representatives, the Senate occupied the room across the hall. That is now called the Senate Reception Room.

The Chamber is directly under the dome. At the base of its inverted rim are three hundred and sixty pieces of carved wood, each representing a degree of the compass. High on the corners of the four walls are carved emblems representing Commerce, Agriculture, War and Peace. Two Revolutionary muskets, one British and one American, hang on the south wall. The lone portrait is of President Coolidge, a former Massachusetts Senator. The flags in the cases on this same wall date from the Revolution and the spaces they occupy were once fireplaces.

**Reception Room** The Senate formerly met here and it is now used for committee meetings and conferences. The unusual ceiling is called a barrel vault because it is curved like the inside of a barrel. Bulfinch used the Ionic form of column in this room. In the middle of the room stands a large round table, made of thirteen pieces of wood, to represent each of the thirteen original states. It is easy to find little Rhode Island.

Among the portraits on the wall is one of Elbridge Gerry, who changed the shape of the district he represented so that it looked like a salamander on the map. That is how the term *Gerrymander* started.

**Governor's Office** The Governor's office and the Council Room are on the west side of the original building. A reception room, hung with portraits of the last six Governors, leads into these two rooms.

The Office looks over the Common and has large arched windows on two sides. A pewter chandelier, said to have been made by Paul Revere, hangs from the ceiling. It was originally lit by candles, then whale oil, kerosene, gas and finally electricity. The antique desk was made to allow two people, the Governor and his secretary, to work together facing each other.

The gold star on the east wall signifies that Massachusetts was one of the original thirteen states. Each Governor chooses the pictures hung in this room during his term of office.

**Governor's Council Room** Across a narrow hall is the Governor's Council Room, interesting because its dimensions form a perfect cube. Its height, width and length are all the same. A beautiful, bohemian glass chandelier hangs from the ceiling. This room was once the Governor's Office.

**Archives Museum** The Archives Museum can be reached directly from Beacon Street through its own entrance at the west end of the building. From the interior of the State House, take an elevator to the basement and follow the blue and gold signs.

This handsome room is built of Tennessee marble. Bronze and glass cases filled with priceless documents surround it and are inserted in the four large pillars in the center of the room. The earliest document is *The History of Plimouth Plantation* in William Bradford's own writing. It is open to the Mayflower Compact. In the center of this room is the Massachusetts Bay Company Charter, brought to Boston in 1630. Other documents reflect historical events such as the Witchcraft Trials in Salem, the capture of the Fort at Louisburg, treaties with the Indians, as well as Paul Revere's engravings, the Boston Massacre and the landing of the British Troops. The musket that "fired the shot heard 'round the world" hangs above the muster rolls of the men who fought that day at Lexington and Concord. The first signed and printed copy of the Declaration of Independence is also here, and the first page of the Massachusetts Constitution.

## IV

### Miscellaneous Facts

**Famous Firsts in Massachusetts** For over three hundred years Massachusetts has led the nation and the world in many ways. Here are just a few of them:

**1621** The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in Plymouth.

**1634** Boston Common became the first public park in America.

**1635** The first American public secondary school, Boston Latin Grammar School, was founded in Boston.

**1636** Harvard, the first American University, was founded in Cambridge.

**1638** The first American printing press was set up in Cambridge.

**1639** The first American post office was opened in Boston.

**1639** The first free American public school — the Mather, was founded in Dorchester (Boston).

**1650** The first American ironworks was established in Saugus.

**1653** The first American public library was founded in Boston.

**1704** The first regularly issued American newspaper, *The Boston News-Letter*, was published in Boston.

**1716** The first American lighthouse was built in Boston Harbor.

**1775** The first battle of the Revolution was fought in Lexington and Concord, and the first ship of the U.S. Navy, the schooner *Hannah*, was commissioned in Beverly.

**1789** The first American novel, William Hill Brown's *The Power of Sympathy*, was published in Worcester.

**1826** The first American railroad was built in Quincy.

**1839** Rubber was first vulcanized by Charles Goodyear in Woburn.

**1845** The first sewing machine was made by Elias Howe in Boston.

**1846** The first public demonstration of ether anesthetic was given in Boston.

**1875** The first American Christmas card was printed by Louis Prang in Boston.

**1876** The first telephone was demonstrated by Alexander Graham Bell in Boston.

**1886** The first transformer was demonstrated by William Stanley in Great Barrington.

**1891** The first basketball game was played in Springfield.

**1892** The first successful gasoline-powered automobile was perfected by Charles and Frank Duryea in Springfield.

**1898** The first American subway system was opened in Boston.

**1926** The first successful liquid fuel rocket was launched by Dr. Robert Goddard in Auburn.

**1928** The first computer, a non-electronic "differential analyzer," was developed by Dr. Vannevar Bush of M.I.T. in Cambridge.

**1944** And not to be outdone by M.I.T., Howard Aiken of Harvard developed the first automatic digital computer.

**Native Sons** The following is a list of noteworthy people who were born in Massachusetts. It is not complete, of course, but it gives a fair indication of what the Bay State has contributed to American art, history, and popular culture.

**Authors:** Henry Adams (Boston); Horatio Alger (Revere); Edward Bellamy (Chicopee Falls); Robert Benchley (Worcester); William Cullen Bryant (Cummington); E. E. Cummings (Cambridge); Emily Dickinson (Amherst); Ralph Waldo Emerson (Boston); Erle Stanley Gardner (Malden); Nathaniel Hawthorne (Salem); Oliver Wendell Holmes (Cambridge); Jack Kerouac (Lowell); Amy Lowell (Brookline); James Russell Lowell (Cambridge); Robert Lowell (Boston); Edgar Allan Poe (Boston); Anne Sexton

(Newton); Henry David Thoreau (Concord); John Greenleaf Whittier (Haverhill).

**Painters:** John Singleton Copley (Boston); Winslow Homer (Boston); James McNeil Whistler (Lowell).

**Inventors:** Robert Goddard (Worcester); Elias Howe (Spencer); Samuel Morse (Charlestown); Eli Whitney (Westboro).

**Patriots of the Revolution:** John Adams (Quincy); Samuel Adams (Boston); Benjamin Franklin (Boston); John Hancock (Braintree); James Otis (Barnstable); Robert Treat Paine (Boston); William Prescott (Groton); Paul Revere (Boston).

**Presidents:** John Adams (Quincy); John Q. Adams (Quincy); John F. Kennedy (Brookline).

**Performing Artists:** Leonard Bernstein (Lawrence); Ray Bolger (Dorchester); Bette Davis (Lowell); Arthur Fiedler (Boston); Georgia Gibbs (Worcester); Robert Goulet (Lawrence); Tammy Grimes (Lynn); Jack Lemmon (Boston); Lee Remick (Quincy).

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